

## Message Text

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63

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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R 181705Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4022

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12133

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CY, UK

SUBJECT: NICOSIA AIRPORT

REF: NICOSIA 3101

SUMMARY: BRITISH ARE GETTING DISCOURAGED WITH LACK OF  
SUCCESS TO DATE. END SUMMARY.

1. OUR FCO CONTACTS TELL US THEY ARE THINKING HARD  
ABOUT NICOSIA AIRPORT PROBLEM. REPAIRS WOULD TAKE THREE  
WEEKS ONCE AGREEMENT GOTTEN TO REOPEN. AS NICOSIA CORRECTLY  
SURMISES, BRITISH HAVE ATTEMPTED TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF  
AIRPORT CONTROL (E.G. OVER IMMIGRATION, ETC.) UNTIL TURKS  
AND GREEKS AGREE TO REPAIRS.

2. TURKS HAVE AGREED TO DISCUSS REOPENING IN CONTEXT OF  
CONTROL PROBLEM. BRITISH BELIEVE TURKS WANT SOME FORM OF  
TRIPARTITE CONTROL, ALTHOUGH TURKS HAVE NOT FORMALLY  
REQUESTED IT. TURKS ARE GENERALLY AWARE OF CONCEPT OF  
UN/ICAO CONTROL OVER AIRPORT, BRITISH THINK, AND DO NOT FAVOR  
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3. ON OTHER HAND, GREEK AMBASSADOR ROUSSOS WAS COMPLETELY NEGATIVE IN DISCUSSION HERE SEPTEMBER 13, CLAIMING GREECE WOULD PUT UP WITH TEMPORARY INCONVENIENCE OF CLOSED AIRPORT FOR THE SAKE OF AVOIDING PREJUDICE TO RIGHTS OF FUTURE GREEK GENERATIONS (I.E. TO EXCLUSIVE CONTROL OVER AIRPORT).

4. FCO OFFICIALS ARE FAIRLY DISCOURAGED. THEY DO NOT SEE EASY WAY TO CONVINCE OTHER PARTIES TO OPENING WITHOUT TACKLING PROBLEM OF CONTROL AT OUTSET -- THOUGH FCO WOULD BE DELIGHTED IF APPROACH LEAVING SUCH QUESTIONS TO LATER POLITICAL TALKS (PER REFTTEL) COULD WORK.

5. FYI ONLY: ONE IDEA WITH WHICH WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS ARE CURRENTLY TOYING IS UNILATERAL BRITISH ASSERTION THAT AIRPORT WILL BE REOPENED IN EXERCISE OF UK RIGHTS UNDER 1960 TREATY. THIS HAS SEVERAL PROBLEMS. ONE IS THAT 1960 RIGHTS ARE FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT ONLY. THERE ARE OTHERS. OFFICIAL TOLD US ABOVE IN DEEPEST CONFIDENCE, POINTING OUT IT HAS NOT BEEN PUT EVEN TO HIGHER FCO LEVELS YET, AND COULD TURN OUT TO BE NONSTARTER. PLEASE PROTECT ENTIRELY.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRPORTS, OPENING OF OFFICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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